Contribution of SSI in Total Industrial Growth

2431. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the contribution of Small Scale Industries in total industrial growth during the last three years;

(b) the performance of Small Scale Industries in terms of employment growth and export earnings during the above period; and

(c) the magnitude of sickness, so far, as Small Scale Industries are concerned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE): (a) The contribution of small scale indutries in total industrial production for the years 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 is 38.98%, 38.89% and 38.54% respectively.

(b) The performance of small scale industries in terms of employment growth and export earnings is as under:—

Items	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
Employment (lakh persons)	160.00	167.20	171.58
Growth in Employment (Percent)	4.84	4.50	2.62
Export Earnings (Rs. Crores)			
Export Earnings	39,249	44,437	48,979

(c) According to the latest figures released by the RBI, the extent of sickness in the SSI sector is about 10%

Formulation of Separate Policy for SSI

2432. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposed to formulate a separate policy for the small scale and tiny sector; contributing thirty-five per cent of India's export;

(b) if so, whether their problems have been ascertained from all States before finalising the SSI policy; and

(c) the steps taken to assist them in technology front for modernisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE): (a) and (b) Policy measures already exist for promoting and strengthening small, tiny and village enterprises which were announced by the Government on the 6th August, 1991. The government continues to lay emphasis on meeting the concerns of the small and tiny sectors. In this regard, interaction with State Governments is a continuous process.

(c) In order to assist small units to upgrade technology for modernisation, emphasis has been laid on strengthening existing technological facilities availbale through Tool Rooms, Product cum Process Development Centres, Regional Testing Centres etc. Assistance is also provided to obtain ISO 9000 certification. The Technology Development and Modernisation Fund of SIDBI and the Technology Upgradation Programme run by the National Small Industries Corporation also assist the SSI units to upgrade their technology.

Separate policy for the small scale and tiny sectors

2433. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are examining the possibility of formulating a separate policy for the small scale and tiny sectors in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether small scale industries and tiny sectors are not properly encouraged by Government to boost their products etc; and

(d) if so, to what extent the new policy will help SSIs in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE): (a) and (b) Policy measure already exist for promoting